

Message Text

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43

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W

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O 121531Z OCT 76

FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5119

S E C R E T CARACAS 12110

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS ASEC VE

SUBJECT: BOSCH DEPORTATION

REF: CARACAS 12103

1. HAVING HEARD NOTHING FURTHER ON OUR DEPORTATION REQUEST I CALLED FOREIGN MINISTER YESTERDAY (MONDAY) AFTERNOON TO ASK IF PRESIDENT HAD REACHED A DECISION. HE SAID HE WOULD LET ME KNOW. HE CALLED BACK ABOUT 6:00 PM TO SAY THAT PRESIDENT WAS STILL "COMPILING INFORMATION", AND THEY WOULD LET ME KNOW.

2. I SUSPECT THAT NOW, IN ADDITION TO THE CHILEAN ANGLE, THE GOV HAS BECOME INTERESTED IN THE CUBANA ANGLE AND WILL WANT TO CLARIFY THAT. (SEE SEPTTEL ON VISIT TO CARACAS OF TRINIDADIAN DEPUTY COMMISSIONER OF POLICE). THIS IS PURE SPECULATION BUT I THINK IT NOT INCONCEIVABLE THAT PRESIDENT WILL BE RELUCTANT TO RELEASE BOSCH TO US BEFORE CUBANA SITUATION FURTHER CLARIFIED. IF HE THINKS CUBANS OR OTHERS MAY CHARGE "CIA CONNECTION" HE MAY NOT WANT TO BE EXPOSED TO ALLEGATION THAT TURNING BOSCH OVER TO USG "PROTECTED" HIM RATHER THAN PUNISHED HIM. IN ANY CASE PEREZ MAY WELL FEEL HE CANNOT JUSTIFY TO PUBLIC OPINION RELEASING BOSCH (OR PERMITTING BOSCH'S DEPORTATION) BEFORE IT CAN BE MADE CLEAR ALL INVESTIGATIONS ON CUBANA CRASH HAVE BEEN COMPLETED. GIVEN THE CUBANA INVESTIGATION DIMENSION, AND CONFIRMING MY TELCON WITH LUERS, I THINK IT WOULD BE COUNTER PRODUCTIVE AND POSSIBLY MISUNDERSTOOD TO TRY TO PRESSURE CAP FURTHER AT THIS POINT.

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